

Quinn Gillespie & Associates LLC

March 16, 2009

ATTN: Ms. Heather H. Hunt
U.S. Department of Justice
FARA Registration Unit
1400 New York Avenue, N.W.
1st Floor - Public Office Suite 100
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 514-1216

Delivery via courier

Re: Submission of Informational Materials by Quinn Gillespie & Associates, FARA
Registrant 5753

Dear Ms. Hunt:

Please find enclosed two copies of a document disseminated on behalf of the Republika Srpska by FARA registrant Quinn Gillespie & Associates, as itemized on the enclosed activity log.

- 1) Letter Regarding H.Res. 171

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about this filing.

Sincerely,



Liz McCurtain
Direct (202) 429-6872
lmccurtain@quinn-gillespie.com

Enclosures

2009 MAR 17 AM 11:14
CRM/REGISTRATION UNIT

Quinn Gillespie

& Associates LLC

March 12, 2009

The Honorable **NAME**
United States House of Representatives
Address 1
Washington, DC 20515

Delivery via Email

Dear **NAME**:

I write on behalf of my client, the Republika Srpska (which I am registered to represent under FARA) to express concerns regarding H.Res. 171. The Resolution fails to recognize the true state of affairs in BiH and sends precisely the wrong signal both to the political leadership of BiH and to our European allies who are involved in the Peace Implementation Council.

In truth, the past few months have brought very positive news from Bosnia-Herzegovina. In November of 2008, Bosnia's three major party political leaders met in Prud to come to an agreement as to how best to address the so-called "five plus two" conditions set out by the Peace Implementation Council. On January 26th of this year, those same leaders reached preliminary agreement on the apportionment of state property and final agreement on a constitutional amendment to settle the legal status of the Brcko district and principles for further constitutional reform. The law regarding state property must be finalized by the three leaders then passed by the BiH Parliament and the amendment regarding the Brcko District, which has the approval of the US Government and the Office of the High Representative must be passed by a two-thirds majority in the Parliament. The Brcko Amendment has already passed its first reading at the entity-level and now only needs to be passed at the national level. If both are passed, BiH will have successfully addressed the objectives set by the PIC for the transition from oversight by the Office of the High Representative to that of the EU Special Representative. That transition is a critical step in the road to BiH's integration into the European Union.

The "Prud" process is a major step forward for Bosnia-Herzegovina: democratically elected political leaders of the three constituent peoples are taking responsibility for tackling difficult and divisive issues. Their negotiations will not be easy, nor will they always agree, but they are demonstrating that Bosnia-Herzegovina can emerge from its political dependency on the international community.

Together, the "Prud Agreements" are thus a major step forward which set the stage for a successful meeting of the Peace Implementation Council on March 25. The Prud process is helping pave the way for a successful transition from the administration of Bosnia-Herzegovina by the Office of the High Representative. The notable achievements of the Prud Process are nowhere mentioned in H.Res. 171, despite the fact that the United States Government and the OHR have already accepted them in significant part (i.e. the Brcko Amendment) as an appropriate solution to heretofore vexing difficulties.

One of the overriding goals of the Dayton Accords has been to have the parties to the Accords within BiH take the initiative to address and solve their internal disputes. Now, those leaders are taking that responsibility and have an agreed plan of action. Bosnia-Herzegovina is a country at peace, finally beginning to take responsibility for shaping its own future. No doubt, problems still exist: the long economic recovery from the war is slowed by the global financial situation, political extremists remain,

and there is a continuing struggle against corruption. Political life in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as elsewhere in the region, also tends to be characterized by brinkmanship and personal attacks in the press.

In recent days the international press and the press of Bosnia-Herzegovina have carried colorful accounts alleging that corruption charges are being brought against RS Government officials. Although information is still incomplete, the Office of the State Prosecutor has launched an internal investigation into whether due process is being respected in this case, which appears have been orchestrated by second-level officials in the Police Services and the Office of the State Prosecutor, acting without the knowledge of their superiors and perhaps under outside political pressure.

The conclusion to be drawn here is not, as some might wish, that Bosnia-Herzegovina should remain a client state of the international community under the administration of the Office of the High Representative. On the contrary, now is the time to put the responsibility for governance of that country in the hands of its democratically elected leaders, under the watchful eye of the international community to be sure, but stripping away the excuse that Bosnia's people and its leaders lack the authority to control their destiny.

But, all of these are being actively addressed by the leaders in BiH and the recent Agreements in Prud demonstrate the capacity of the political leadership there to do so successfully and on peaceful bases. That dissenters who are not among the nation's current leadership may wish otherwise is no basis for ignoring the real progress that we should be encouraging.

Notably, a substantial international presence will remain in BiH in the form of an expanded EU mission. However, these recent agreements between the three political leaders show that Bosnia's leaders are prepared to make tough political decisions that are required for BiH to progress to the point where integration into the EU is possible. The leaders of the country's three constituent peoples agree that EU membership is central to its long term economic success, and following the eventual closure of OHR, the EU Mission will become the focal point for negotiating the structural and legal changes necessary for Bosnia-Herzegovina to become an EU member.

In the meantime, we need to be careful as we move forward that BiH not fall into a state of semi-permanent dependency.

That is why we are concerned that H.Res. 171, by failing to recognize the progress being made in Bosnia, especially through the Prud process, and by neglecting to press for an early transition away from the international administration of the country through the Office of the High Representative, sends the wrong signals to the leaders and the citizens of that country.

We hope that you will carefully evaluate the potential damage that may be done to these efforts for cooperation and peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina by any legislation the US House of Representatives may debate and pass.

Sincerely,

Jack Quinn/Dave Hoppe

CC: **Chief of Staff**
Foreign Policy LA

Disclaimer: This material is circulated by Quinn Gillespie & Associates, 1133 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., 5th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20036, on behalf of the Republika Srpska. Quinn Gillespie & Associates is registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act with the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., as an agent for the Republika Srpska. Copies of this material are filed with the Department of Justice where the required registration statement and additional materials are available for public inspection. Registration does not indicate approval of the content of this material by the U.S. Government.

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